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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/927,794	08/08/2001	Masayuki Koga	81784.0241	7447

26021 7590 04/10/2006

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EXAMINER

CRANE, SARA W

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2811

DATE MAILED: 04/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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02/927794

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER


ART UNIT	PAPER
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420061

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents


Sara W. Crane
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2811

On May 7, 2004, Applicant submitted in this case a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), an Amendment, and a Letter of Transmittal. (A Request for Extension of Time and appropriate fees were also submitted.) A postcard was submitted with the papers, which was date-stamped by the PTO and returned to Applicant. A copy of this card, previously faxed to the examiner, is attached to this Office action. Papers associated with the Amendment, and the amendment itself were scanned into the PTO IFW file, but the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) itself seems not to have been scanned, because it does not appear in the list of papers in the IFW system. The Letter of Transmittal also does not seem to be in the IFW.

The PTO PALM system shows an entry of 5/7/2004, called "Workflow - Request for RCE - Begin." So entry of the RCE was begun. But entry of the RCE has never been completed. Apparently, completion of RCE processing is a procedure associated by the PTO computer system with a given paper in the IFW file, i.e., a paper titled for example "Request for Continued Examination." Because no such paper appears in the IFW for this case, the PTO technical support staff cannot complete the RCE processing.

So, what is needed now is a completed paper such as the Request for Continued Examination Transmittal form, as shown in MPEP 706.07(h), Section XIII. (A sample blank copy is attached to this Office action.) If a copy of the originally-submitted "Request for Continued Examination" is available to Applicant, this should be submitted. If no copy of the originally-filed paper is available, Applicant should submit a new paper such as a completed Request for Continued Examination Form PTO-2051, as shown in the MPEP section noted above. In other words, the date-stamped postcard should be

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sufficient evidence that the original filing was proper and complete, but the set of papers as now appears in the IFW is incomplete. So, as a formal matter, a new paper is needed to replace the originally-submitted "Request for Continued Examination." Also, the "Letter of Transmittal" is missing, and such a letter should probably also appear in the file and should be submitted. The "Amendment" was scanned, apparently completely, but if Applicant could submit a copy of the amendment papers, that may also be helpful in the entry of the RCE into the PTO IFW system. A statement from Applicant, that this submission is intended to replace or duplicate the originally-filed papers of May 7, 2004 as shown on the date-stamped postcard, may also be helpful.

Applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to S. Crane, whose telephone number is (571) 272-1652.

The supervisor for Art Unit 2811, Eddie Lee can be reached on (571) 272-1732. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Sara W. Crane
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2811